

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 11, 12, 14, 15, and 16. Please add new Claims 17-32. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 11 wherein the reservation request specifies a desired bandwidth for the shared communication resource.
3. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 11 wherein the reservation request additionally specifies a physical location for the shared communication resource.
4. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 11 wherein the reservation request additionally specifies a call duration for the shared communication resource.
5. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 4 comprising the additional step of:
releasing the reserved communication resource once the call duration specified by the reservation request has expired.
6. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 4 comprising the additional step of:
near the end of the call duration, sending a warning prompt to the user that the call is about to be terminated.
7. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 4 additionally comprising the step of:
near the end of the call duration, prompting the user to request whether the call duration should be extended.
8. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 11 comprising the additional step of:

releasing the communication resource if the user does not attempt to access the communication resource within a predetermined time after the reservation time.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 11 wherein the shared communication resource is a radio channel in a wireless communication system.
10. (Canceled)
11. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a contention-based, multiple access communication system comprising the steps of:
 - accepting a reservation request for access by a user to a shared communication resource, the reservation request indicating at least a future ~~date and~~ appointed time for the reservation;
 - creating a reservation record in a home location register, the reservation record associated with the user;
 - prior to the future appointed reservation time, reading the reservation record from the home location register;
 - validating the reservation record for access if the user is authorized;
 - moving the validated reservation record to a visitor location register; and
 - at the appointed ~~date and~~ reservation time,
 - reserving at least a portion of the shared communication resource for exclusive use by the user.
12. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 11 wherein the reservation record additionally specifies telephone numbers for other users to be connected at the ~~appointed date and~~ reservation time.
13. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 4 wherein the reservation record additionally specifies a billing rate for the reservation request.

14. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 11 wherein the reservation request is made for the user by another party who will participate in communicating with the user at the ~~appointed date~~ and reservation time.
15. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 11 wherein the wireless communication system is a cellular system, and the method further comprises the additional steps of:
 - accepting a reservation request indicating an expected physical location for the user at the ~~appointed date~~ and reservation time; and
 - reserving a communication resource in one or more cells in an area near the expected physical location.
16. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 11 wherein the wireless communication system is a cellular system, and the method further comprises the additional steps of:
 - accepting a reservation request indicating an expected physical location and expected route for the user at the ~~appointed date~~ and reservation time; and
 - reserving a communication resource in one or more cells located along the expected route.
17. (New) A computer readable medium having computer readable program codes embodied therein for causing at least one computer to operate a contention-based, multiple access communication system, the computer readable medium program codes performing functions comprising:
 - accepting a reservation request for access by a user to a shared communication resource, the reservation request indicating at least a future appointed time for the reservation;
 - creating a reservation record in a home location register, the reservation record associated with the user;
 - prior to the reservation time, reading the reservation record from the home location register;
 - validating the reservation record for access if the user is authorized;

moving the validated reservation record to a visitor location register; and
at the reservation time, reserving at least a portion of the shared
communication resource for exclusive use by the user.

18. (New) A mobile switching apparatus in a wireless communications network, the wireless network including one or more home location registers, visited location registers, base station subsystems, reservation agents, and mobile stations, each mobile station interfacing with a subscriber identity module, each subscriber identity module including the identity for a wireless network subscriber, the apparatus comprising:

a first interface with a home location register, the home location register capable of storing a reservation record received from a reservation agent, the reservation record associated with a subscriber;

a second interface with a visited location register, the visited location register capable of storing a temporary reservation record associated with a subscriber;

a third interface with a base station subsystem, the base station subsystem managing the radio interface channels accessed by mobile stations;

means for reading the reservation record from the home location register prior to the reservation time;

means for validating the reservation record for access if the user is authorized;

means for moving the validated reservation record to a visitor location register; and

means for reserving one or more interface channels for exclusive use by the mobile station associated with a subscriber at the reservation time.

19. (New) A contention-based, multiple access communication system comprising:

means for accepting a reservation request for access by a user to a shared communication resource, the reservation request indicating at least a future appointed time for the reservation;

means for creating a reservation record in a home location register, the reservation record associated with the user;

means for reading the reservation record from the home location register prior to the reservation time;

means for validating the reservation record for access if the user is authorized;

means for moving the validated reservation record to a visitor location register; and

means for reserving at least a portion of the shared communication resource for exclusive use by the user at the reservation time.

20. (New) A system as in claim 19 wherein the reservation request specifies a desired bandwidth for the shared communication resource.
21. (New) A system as in claim 19 wherein the reservation request additionally specifies a physical location for the shared communication resource.
22. (New) A system as in claim 19 wherein the reservation request additionally specifies a call duration for the shared communication resource.
23. (New) A system as in claim 22 comprising the additional means for releasing the reserved communication resource once the call duration specified by the reservation request has expired.
24. (New) A system as in claim 22 comprising the additional means for sending a warning prompt to the user that the call is about to be terminated near the end of the call duration.
25. (New) A system as in claim 22 additionally comprising the means for prompting the user to request whether the call duration should be extended near the end of the call duration.

26. (New) A system as in claim 22 wherein the reservation record additionally specifies a billing rate for the reservation request.
27. (New) A system as in claim 19 further comprising the means for releasing the communication resource if the user does not attempt to access the communication resource within a predetermined time after the reservation time.
28. (New) A system as in claim 19 wherein the shared communication resource is a radio channel in a wireless communication system.
29. (New) A system as in claim 19 wherein the reservation record additionally specifies telephone numbers for other users to be connected at the reservation time.
30. (New) A system as in claim 19 wherein the reservation request is made for the user by another party who will participate in communicating with the user at the appointed date and time.
31. (New) A system as in claim 19 wherein the wireless communication system is a cellular system, and further comprises:
 - means for accepting a reservation request indicating an expected physical location for the user at the appointed date and time; and
 - means for reserving a communication resource in one or more cells in an area near the expected physical location.
32. (New) A system as in claim 19 wherein the wireless communication system is a cellular system, and further comprises:
 - means for accepting a reservation request indicating an expected physical location and expected route for the user at the reservation time; and
 - means for reserving a communication resource in one or more cells located along the expected route.